



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

999 18th STREET - SUITE 500  
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2466

AUG - 4 2005

Ref: 8ENF-W

CERTIFIED MAIL LETTER 7004 2510 0004 8289 5584  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Johnson County Commissioners  
c/o Gerald Fink, Chairman  
76 North Main Street  
Buffalo, WY 82834

Re: Notice of Safe Drinking Water Act  
Enforcement Action against  
White Buffalo Bar  
PWS ID#5601541

Dear County Commissioners:

Pursuant to Section 1414(a)(2)(B) of the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is required to notify an appropriate locally elected official of any action taken in a State that does not have primary enforcement authority for public water systems. The State of Wyoming does not have primary enforcement authority for public water systems under the SDWA.

An Administrative Order is being issued under Section 1414 of the SDWA to the White Buffalo Bar water system, Buffalo, Wyoming. This Order requires that the public water system take measures to return to compliance with the SDWA and the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. The system is in violation of 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.21(a)(2), 141.201, 141.21(g)(2) and 141.31(b) for failure to perform routine monitoring for total coliform bacteria, failure to notify the public of the violations and failure to report violations to EPA.

A copy of the Order is enclosed for your information. The Order does not require any response or action by the County Commission. If you have any questions regarding this Order, please contact Gina Andrews at (303) 312-6688.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Diane L. Sipe", is written above the typed name.

Diane L. Sipe, Director  
Technical Enforcement Program  
Office of Enforcement, Compliance  
and Environmental Justice

Enclosure



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 8

999 18<sup>TH</sup> STREET - SUITE 300

DENVER, CO 80202-2466

Phone 800-227-8917

<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

Ref: 8ENF-W

AUG - 4 2005

CERTIFIED MAIL LETTER 7004 2510 8289 5577  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Jim Mcadoo, Registered Agent  
The White Buffalo Two, LLC  
262 Rock Creek Road  
Buffalo, WY 82834

Re: Administrative Order  
Docket No. SDWA-08-2005-0045  
PWS ID #WY5601541

Dear Mr. Mcadoo:

Enclosed you will find an Administrative Order (Order), which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), 42 U.S.C. Section 300f *et seq.*, and its implementing regulations. Among other things, the Administrative Order finds that The White Buffalo Two, LLC is a supplier of water as defined by the SDWA and that it has violated the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWRs) at 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.21(a)(2), 141.201, 141.21(g)(2) and 141.31(b) for failure to perform routine monitoring for total coliform bacteria, failure to notify the public of the violations and failure to report violations to EPA.

If you comply with the enclosed Order for a period of at least twelve months, EPA may choose to close the Order. Violating the enclosed Order may lead to (1) a penalty of up to \$32,500 per day of violation of the Order, (2) a separate such penalty for violating the regulations themselves, and/or (3) a court injunction ordering you to comply.

Among other things, the Order calls for you to provide a public notification of violations of the SDWA. For your convenience, we have enclosed some template forms to assist you in providing the required public notice. If you have any questions or comments concerning the form of the public notice, please do not hesitate to contact Gina Andrews of the EPA, whose telephone number is provided below.

Also enclosed is a Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act (SBREFA) Section 22 information sheet. The SBREFA sheet notifies small businesses of their right to



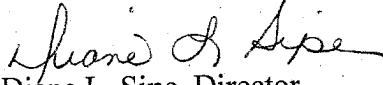
Printed on Recycled Paper

comment on regulatory enforcement activities, and provides information on compliance assistance. Dissemination of this information sheet does not constitute an admission or determination by EPA that the business, organization or governmental jurisdiction is a small entity as defined by SBREFA.

Please note that the effective date of the enclosed Order is the date of issuance. Within the next 10 days, please provide EPA with any new information that you believe the Agency is not aware of relating to the alleged violations in the Order. The information may be sent to Gina Andrews at the address on the letterhead, include the mailcode 8ENF-W, or you may call Ms. Andrews at (800) 227-8917, extension 6688, or (303) 312-6688. If you wish to have an informal conference with EPA, you may also call or write Ms. Andrews. If you are represented by an attorney, please feel free to ask your attorney to call Michelle Marcu at the above 800 number, extension 6921, or at (303) 312-6921.

We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Diane L. Sipe, Director  
Technical Enforcement Program  
Office of Enforcement, Compliance  
and Environmental Justice

Enclosure  
Order  
SBREFA

cc: Wyoming DEQ (via email)  
Wyoming DOH (via email)



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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8

2005 AUG -4 PM 1:21

IN THE MATTER OF )

The White Buffalo Two, LLC )  
Buffalo, Wyoming )

Respondent )

Proceedings under Sections 1414(g) )  
of the Safe Drinking Water Act, )  
42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g) )

FILED  
EPA REGION VIII  
HEARING CLERK

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Docket No. **SDWA-08-2005-0045**

The following Findings are made and Order issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by Section 1414(g) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (the Act), 42 U.S.C. §§ 300g-3(g) and its implementing regulations, as properly delegated to the Supervisors of the Technical and Legal Enforcement Programs of the Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice, EPA Region 8.

FINDINGS

1. The White Buffalo Two, LLC ("Respondent") is a limited liability company under the laws of the state of Wyoming as of August 6, 2001, and therefore a "person" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 141.2.
2. Respondent owns and/or operates a system, the White Buffalo Bar water system (the "System"), located in Johnson County, Wyoming for the provision to the public of piped water for human consumption.
3. The System has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year and is therefore a "public water system" within the meaning of Section 1401(4) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. §



300f(4), and a "non-community water system" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 141.2.

4. Respondent owns and/or operates a public water system and is therefore a "supplier of water" within the meaning of Section 1401(5) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(5) and 40 C.F.R. § 141.2. Respondent is therefore subject to the requirements of Part B of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g et seq., and its implementing regulations, 40 C.F.R. Part 141.
5. According to an October 20, 2004 sanitary survey by an agent for EPA, the System is supplied solely by a ground water source consisting of one well. The System serves approximately 350 persons during the year-round operating period through 1 service connection.

#### FINDINGS OF VIOLATION

##### I.

1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21 requires any non-community public water system with a ground water source and an average daily population of less than 1,001 to monitor its water at least once per quarter to determine compliance with the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for total coliform bacteria as stated in 40 C.F.R. § 141.63.
2. Respondent failed to monitor the System's water for contamination for total coliform bacteria during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (April – June) 2004 and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter (October – December) 2004, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(a)(2).



II.

1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.201 requires owners and/or operators of public water systems to notify the public of any national primary drinking water regulation ("NPDWR") violations, including violations of the maximum contaminant level ("MCL"), maximum residual disinfection level ("MRDL"), treatment technique ("TT"), monitoring requirements, and testing procedures in 40 C.F.R. Part 141.
2. Respondent has not provided public notice of the violations detailed in the preceding Section I, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.201.

III.

1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2) requires public water systems that have failed to comply with a coliform monitoring requirement under 40 C.F.R. § 141.21 to report the violation to EPA within ten days after the system discovers the violation.
2. Respondent failed to report to EPA the noncompliance detailed in Section I above, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2).

IV.

1. 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b) requires public water systems to report any failure to comply with any NPDWR to EPA within 48 hours.
2. Respondent failed to report to EPA instances of noncompliance detailed in section II, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b).



ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings, and pursuant to Sections 1414(g) of the Act, IT IS

ORDERED:

1. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with the requirement of 40 C.F.R. § 141.21 to perform quarterly bacteriological monitoring to determine compliance with the MCLs as stated in 40 C.F.R. § 141.63. Respondent shall report analytical results to EPA within the first 10 days of the end of the monitoring period, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(a).
2. Within 30 days from the effective date of this Order, Respondent must provide public notice of the violations specified under Section I of the Findings of Violation in this Order, to return to compliance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.201, 141.204 and 141.205. This notice must be given by any one of the following methods: (1) posting the notice in conspicuous locations throughout the distribution system frequented by persons served by the system; (2) by mail or direct delivery to each customer and service connection; AND (3) any other method reasonably calculated to reach other persons served by the system, if they would not normally be reached by the notice described in (1) and (2), including publication in a local newspaper or newsletter distributed to customers; use of E-mail to notify employees or students; or, delivery of multiple copies in central locations. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with the public notification requirements at 40 C.F.R. § 141.201 et seq. following any



future NPDWR violation. Respondent shall submit a copy of the public notice to EPA within 10 days of completion of the public notice, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(d).

3. Upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with 40 C.F.R. § 141.21(g)(2) by reporting any failure to comply with coliform monitoring requirements under 40 C.F.R. § 141.21 to EPA within ten days after the system discovers the violation.
4. Except where a different reporting period is specified in paragraph 3 above, upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall comply with 40 C.F.R. § 141.31(b) by reporting any failure to comply with any NPDWR to EPA within 48 hours.
5. Reporting requirements specified in this Order shall be provided by certified mail to:

U. S. EPA Region 8 (8P-W-MS)  
999 18th Street, Suite 300  
Denver, Colorado 80202-2466

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

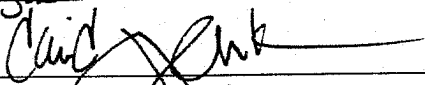
1. This Order does not constitute a waiver, suspension, or modification of the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 141.1 et seq., or the Safe Drinking Water Act, which remain in full force and effect. Issuance of this Order is not an election by EPA to forgo any civil or criminal action otherwise authorized under the Act.

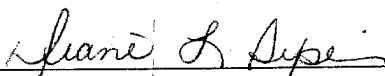




2. Violation of any term of this Order may subject the Respondent to an administrative civil penalty of up to \$27,500 under Section 1414(g)(3)(B) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)(3)(B), or a civil penalty of not more than \$32,500 per day of violation assessed by an appropriate U.S. District Court under Section 1414(g)(3)(C) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g)(3)(C).
3. Violation of any requirement of the Act or its implementing regulations may subject Respondent to a civil penalty of not more than \$32,500 per day of violation assessed by an appropriate U.S. District Court under Section 1414(b) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(b).
4. The effective date of this Order shall be the date of issuance of this Order.

Issued this 4th day of August, 2005.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael T. Risner, Director  
David J. Janik, Supervisory Attorney  
Legal Enforcement Program  
Office of Enforcement, Compliance  
and Environmental Justice

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane L. Sipe, Director  
Technical Enforcement Program  
Office of Enforcement, Compliance  
and Environmental Justice





## U. S. EPA Small Business Resources

If you own a small business, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) offers a variety of compliance assistance and tools to assist you in complying with federal and state environmental laws. These resources can help you understand your environmental obligations, improve compliance and find cost-effective ways to comply through the use of pollution prevention and other innovative technologies.

### Hotlines, Helplines and Clearinghouses

EPA sponsors approximately 89 free hotlines and clearinghouses that provide convenient assistance regarding environmental requirements.

**The National Environmental Compliance Assistance Clearinghouse** provides quick access to compliance assistance tools, contacts, and planned activities from the U.S. EPA, states, and other compliance assistance providers: <http://www.epa.gov/clearinghouse>

**Pollution Prevention Clearinghouse**  
<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/library/ppicindex.htm>

**EPA's Small Business Ombudsman Hotline** can provide a list of all the hot lines and assist in determining the hotline best meeting your needs:  
(800) 368-5888

**Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act**  
(800) 424-9346

**National Response Center** (to report oil and hazardous substance spills)  
(800) 424-8802

**Toxics Substances and Asbestos Information**  
(202) 554-1404

**Safe Drinking Water**  
(800) 426-4791

**Stratospheric Ozone and Refrigerants Information**  
(800) 296-1996

**Clean Air Technology Center**  
(919) 541-0800

**Wetlands Helpline**  
(800) 832-7828

### EPA Websites

EPA has several Internet sites that provide useful compliance assistance information and materials for small businesses. If you don't have access to the Internet at your business, many public libraries provide access to the Internet at minimal or no cost.

**EPA's Home Page**  
<http://www.epa.gov>

**Small Business Assistance Program**  
<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/sbap>

**Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance**  
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance>

**Compliance Assistance Home Page**  
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/assistance>

**Office of Regulatory Enforcement**  
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/civil/index.html>

**Office of Site Remediation Enforcement**  
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/cleanup>

**Innovative Programs for Environmental Performance**  
<http://www.epa.gov/partners>

**Small Business Ombudsman**  
[www.sba.gov/ombudsman](http://www.sba.gov/ombudsman)

## Compliance Assistance Centers

In partnership with industry, universities, and other federal and state agencies, EPA has established national Compliance Assistance Centers that provide Internet and "faxback" assistance services for several industries with many small businesses. The following Compliance Assistance Centers can be accessed through the Center's gateway at <http://www.assistancecenters.net> or by calling the phone numbers below and at their respective websites:

### Metal Finishing

(1-800-AT-NMFRC or [www.nmfrc.org](http://www.nmfrc.org))

### Printing

(1-888-USPNEAC or [www.pneac.org](http://www.pneac.org))

### Automotive Service and Repair

(1-888-GRN-LINK or [www.ccar-greenlink.org](http://www.ccar-greenlink.org))

### Agriculture

(1-888-663-2155 or [www.epa.gov/agriculture](http://www.epa.gov/agriculture))

### Printed Wiring Board Manufacturing

(1-734-995-4911 or [www.pwbrc.org](http://www.pwbrc.org))

### The Chemical Industry

(1-800-672-6048 or [www.chemalliance.org](http://www.chemalliance.org))

### The Transportation Industry

(1-888-459-0656 or [www.transource.org](http://www.transource.org))

### The Paints and Coatings Center

(1-800-286-6372 or [www.paintcenter.org](http://www.paintcenter.org))

Three new centers are under development for the auto salvage sector, the construction industry, and U.S. Mexican border waste issues.

## State Agencies

Many state agencies have established compliance assistance programs that provide on-site and other types of assistance. Contact your local state environmental agency for more information. For assistance in reaching state agencies, call EPA's Small Business Ombudsman at (800)-368-5888 or visit the Small Business Environmental Homepage at <http://www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org/state.html>.

## Compliance Incentives

EPA provides incentives for environmental compliance. By participating in compliance assistance programs or voluntarily disclosing and promptly correcting violations, businesses may be eligible for penalty waivers or reductions. EPA has two policies that potentially apply to small businesses: The Audit Policy (<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/incentives/auditing>) and the Small Business Policy (<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/incentives/smallbusiness>).

These do not apply if an enforcement action has already been initiated.

## Commenting on Federal Enforcement Actions and Compliance Activities

The Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) established an ombudsman ("SBREFA Ombudsman") and 10 Regional Fairness Boards to receive comments from small businesses about federal agency enforcement actions. The SBREFA Ombudsman will annually rate each agency's responsiveness to small businesses. If you believe that you fall within the Small Business Administration's definition of a small business (based on your North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) designation, number of employees or annual receipts, defined at 13 C.F.R. 121.201; in most cases, this means a business with 500 or fewer employees), and wish to comment on federal enforcement and compliance activities, call the SBREFA Ombudsman's toll-free number at 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

Every small business that is the subject of an enforcement or compliance action is entitled to comment on the Agency's actions without fear of retaliation. EPA employees are prohibited from using enforcement or any other means of retaliation against any member of the regulated community because the regulated community previously commented on its activities.

## Your Duty to Comply

If you receive compliance assistance or submit comments to the SBREFA Ombudsman or Regional Fairness Boards, you still have the duty to comply with the law, including providing timely responses to EPA information requests, administrative or civil complaints, other enforcement actions or communications. The assistance information and comment processes do not give you any new rights or defenses in any enforcement action. These processes also do not affect EPA's obligation to protect public health or the environment under any of the environmental statutes it enforces, including the right to take emergency remedial or emergency response actions when appropriate. Those decisions will be based on the facts in each situation. The SBREFA Ombudsman and Fairness Boards do not participate in resolving EPA's enforcement actions. Also, remember that to preserve your rights, you need to comply with all rules governing the enforcement process.

*EPA is disseminating this information to you without making a determination that your business or organization is a small business as defined by Section 222 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) or related provisions.*

## TIER 3 TEMPLATES

The pages that follow contain templates for Tier 3 violations and situations. Along with the templates are instructions, including the required method of delivery and instructions for completing individual sections of the notices. These instructions are designed to supplement Chapter 7, so you may see much of the information repeated here.

**Mandatory language on unknown risk for monitoring violations, which must be included exactly as written, is presented in *italics* (141.205(d)). All the language in the fluoride SMCL template (except the language discussed below) is mandatory (141.208).**

You must also include the following italicized language in all notices, where applicable (141.205(d)). Use of this language does *not* relieve you of your obligation to take steps reasonably calculated to notify all persons served:

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

### Templates

Monitoring Violations Annual Notice-Template 3-1  
Fluoride SMCL Notice-Template 3-2

## Instructions for Monitoring Violations Annual Notice--Template 3-1

### Template on Reverse

Since most monitoring violations are included in Tier 3, you must provide public notice to persons served within one year after you learn of the violation (141.204(b)). Multiple monitoring violations can be serious, and your primacy agency may have more stringent requirements. Check with your primacy agency to make sure you meet its requirements.

Community systems must use one of the following (141.204(c)):

- Hand or direct delivery
- Mail, as a separate notice or included with the bill

Non-community systems must use one of the following (141.204(c)):

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand delivery
- Mail

In addition, both community and non-community systems must use *another* method reasonably calculated to reach others if they would not be reached by the first method (141.204(c)). Such methods could include newspapers, e-mail, or delivery to community organizations. If you post the notice, it must remain posted until the violation is resolved. If the violation has been resolved, you must post the notice for at least one week (141.204(b)). If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on letterhead, if available.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for insertion in an annual notice or the CCR, as long as public notification timing and delivery requirements are met (141.204(d)). You may need to modify the template for a notice for individual monitoring violations. This example presents violations in a table; however, you may write out an explanation for each violation if you wish. For any monitoring violation for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) or other groups, you may list the group name in the table, but you must provide the name of every chemical in the group on the notice, e.g., in a footnote.

You may need to modify the notice if you had any monitoring violations for which monitoring later showed a maximum contaminant level or other violation. In such cases, you should refer to the public notice you issued at that time.

Include in your notice the standard language for monitoring and testing procedure violations in *italics* (141.205(d)(2)). If you modify the notice, you may not alter this mandatory language.

### Corrective Actions

In your notice, describe corrective actions you took or are taking. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with monitoring violations. Choose the appropriate language, or develop your own:

- We have since taken the required samples, as described in the last column of the table above. The samples showed we are meeting drinking water standards.
- We have since taken the required samples, as described in the last column of the table above. The sample for [contaminant] exceeded the limit. [Describe corrective action; use information from public notice prepared for violating the limit.]
- We plan to take the required samples soon, as described in the last column of the table above.

### After Issuing the Notice

Make sure to send your primacy agency a copy of each type of notice and a certification that you have met all the public notice requirements within ten days after issuing the notice (141.31(d)).

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

### **Monitoring Requirements Not Met for WHITE BUFFALO BAR**

Our water system violated several drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2004 we did not complete all monitoring for TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

#### **What should I do?**

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for [this contaminant/these contaminants] and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Required sampling frequency</b>	<b>When all samples should have been taken (Violation)</b>	<b>When samples were or will be taken</b>
Total Coliform Bacteria	Quarterly (1 sample every three months)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2004 (Apr-Jun) 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2004 (Oct-Dec)	Most recent sample collected Feb. 2005

#### **What happened? What is being done?**

For more information, please contact JIM MCCADO at 307-684-0101 or at P.O. BOX 428 BUFFALO, WY 82834.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by WHITE BUFFALO BAR  
State Water System ID#: \_WY5601541\_. Date distributed: